



**International Convention
on the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination**

Distr.
GENERAL

CERD/C/226/Add.8
30 April 1993

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Forty-second session

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER
ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION

Twelfth periodic reports of States Parties due in 1992

Addendum

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN*

[11 February 1993]

1. According to the first article of the Constitution, Iran is an Islamic Republic, hence its laws and regulations have been ratified on the basis of faith in Islam. The noble Verse: "O mankind, We have created you male and female, and made you races and tribes, that you may know one another" is the basis of belief of the Islamic Republic of Iran system, as far as the treatment of mankind is concerned. By virtue of this Verse, human individuals are created as men and women, races and tribes, so that they may know one another, establish contact with one another and respect one another's rights equally. Therefore, the articles of the Constitution and other enacted laws that are in force fully conform with the above Verse.

* This report constitutes the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth periodic reports which were due, respectively, on 5 January 1987, 1988, 1990 and 1992. For the seventh and eighth periodic reports submitted by the Government of Iran and the summary records of meetings of the Committee at which those reports were considered, see the following documents:

Seventh periodic report - CERD/C/91/Add.31 (CERD/C/SR.615-616);
Eighth periodic report - CERD/C/118/Add.12 (CERD/C/SR.709-710).

2. Since the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, by virtue of the purport of paragraph 1 of articles 2, 4 and 24, as well as its articles 26 and 27, and also the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and Islam follow common aims, so Iran has adhered to both Conventions and is a party thereto. The provisions relating to the prohibition of any kind of racial discrimination, genocide, colonialism and all forms of racial segregation, and that everyone, without any distinction whatsoever, such as race, colour, nationality, is entitled to enjoy all rights and freedoms contained in the Covenant, are also confirmed by the Islamic Republic of Iran system.

3. In connection with the campaign against racial discrimination, legal provisions accepted in Iran are:

(a) The Constitution

4. Article 19 of the Constitution reads:

"All people of Iran, whatever the ethnic group or tribe to which they belong, enjoy equal rights; and colour, race, language, and the like, do not bestow any privilege."

(b) The Law of Punishment for Racial Discrimination Propaganda (1977)

5. Article 1 of this Law states:

"It is forbidden to disseminate any kinds of thoughts about discrimination based on race and sex, racial hatred, and inciting discrimination based on race and sex through mass media ^{1/} against any group who are different from the point of view of race, sex, colour and ethnicity, and also giving any financial and other kinds of assistance for racial discrimination. The offender will be condemned to imprisonment from six months and to cash fines from 10,000 to 50,000 Rials, unless more severe punishments have been envisaged in other laws, in which case the latter shall be applicable."

6. According to article 2:

"Anyone who establishes or administers a society in order to propagate discrimination on the basis of race, sex and ethnicity, or to create hatred or hostility, or to sow the seed of discord on the basis of race, ethnicity and sex, will be condemned to terms of imprisonment ranging from three months to one year and to cash fine from 10,000 to 100,000 Rials. Minimum of above punishment will be applicable to membership of the above society."

^{1/} By "mass media" used in this article is meant speeches in public places, radio and television, publication of declarations, printing of books, newspapers and magazines as well as display of films and the like.

(c) The Law of Adherence of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (12 February 1985)

7. Articles I and II, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 (a) to (c) of the Convention are incorporated in the Law of Adherence of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

8. With regard to subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) of article II, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the Law of Adherence provides that:

"... any action designed to divide the population on the basis of racial boundaries, boycotting mixed marriages among members of racial groups, expropriation of lands of members of a racial group, exploitation of labour of a particular racial group and prosecution and persecution of opponents of apartheid are forbidden".

9. The Law of Adherence further provides as follows:

"Article 3. ... international penal responsibility lies on the shoulders of perpetrators in direct incitement or cooperation in committing apartheid crime, as mentioned in Article 2.

"Article 4. The Law of Adherence ... holds Convention members responsible for taking legal and necessary measures to prohibit apartheid and prevent encouragement to commit this crime and similar policies, and also for punishing the offenders.

"Article 5. Those accused of having committed the acts mentioned in Article 2 will be tried in competent courts of each country, or, if the latter agrees, in the international penal tribunal.

"Article 6. The member States undertake to accept and execute the decisions taken by the Security Council concerning prohibition and punishment of apartheid.

"Article 7. The member States undertake to submit periodic reports about legal, judicial and executive measures to the authority designated by the Convention."

10. Thus, the Islamic Republic of Iran system, taking account of its binding laws and regulations, not only does not accept any discrimination among various tribes and ethnic groups subjects to and within Iran, but it also strongly protests against the existence of such discrimination in some countries, including South Africa, and supports any efforts made to compel this and other countries to relinquish this wrong and inhuman policy.

11. In addition to its membership in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Islamic Republic of Iran has also adhered to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.